

Please amend the following claims.

*C1*  
*SubD1* → Claim 1 (twice amended)

An ink composition comprising a colorant comprising a dye or a pigment and a polymer encapsulating the dye or pigment and having, in its molecular chain, sites possessing ultraviolet absorbing activity and/or photostabilizing activity; water; and a water-soluble organic solvent, wherein the polymer encapsulated colorant is in the form of a fine particle in the ink composition and the polymer has a glass transition point of 30°C or below and comprises a carboxyl or sulfonic acid group.

*C2*  
*SubD3* → Claim 26 (twice amended)

A colorant comprising a dye or a pigment and a polymer encapsulating the dye or the pigment and having, in its molecular chain, sites possessing ultraviolet absorbing activity and/or photostabilizing activity, the colorant being in the form of fine particles and the polymer having a glass transition point of 30°C or below and comprising a carboxyl or sulfonic acid group.

Please add the following new claims.

*C3* 38. (New)

The ink composition according to claim 4, wherein the polymer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, amido, and amino groups.

39. (New)

The ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble organic solvent has a boiling point of 180°C or above.

40. (New) The ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the colorant has a particle diameter of 5 to 500 nm.

41. (New) The ink composition according to claim 1, which further comprises another colorant.

42. (New) The ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the colorant is produced by dissolving or dispersing the dye or pigment in a monomer component for constituting the polymer whereby to form a solution or a dispersion, and subjecting the solution or dispersion and a monomer having a site possessing the ultraviolet absorbing activity and/or photostabilizing activity to emulsion polymerization in water in the presence of a polymerization catalyst and an emulsifier.

43. (New) The ink composition according to claim 26, wherein the colorant is produced by dissolving or dispersing the dye or pigment in a monomer component for constituting the polymer whereby to form a solution or a dispersion, and subjecting the solution or dispersion and a monomer having a site possessing the ultraviolet absorbing activity or photostabilizing activity to emulsion polymerization in water in the presence of a polymerization catalyst and an emulsifier.

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**REMARKS**

The Official Action of May 16, 2001 has been carefully considered and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.